

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims refers to the originally filed application. Other listing of claims provided in the communication of January 17, 2005 in response of the Office Action is to be ignored.

1. (currently amended) A shoring device for trenches and ditches comprising [:] a pair of shoring panels held vertically apart against sidewalls of a trench by a pair of strutting assemblies wherein:

~~a pair of shoring panels, each said shoring panel having laterally on prolongation of each extremity either end a vertical guide of round tube, and lengthwise at the bottom, a cutting edge whose cross-section outlines a right triangle built onto and along the side denoting the thickness of said panel;~~

~~a pair of strutting assemblies, each said strutting assembly having a pair of vertical struts held oppositely apart by at least one horizontal strut, each said vertical strut being fastened rigidly on either end of said horizontal strut by mean that said horizontal strut does not pivot nor can displace vertically relative to said vertical strut, whose extremities are pinned or bolted onto corresponding vertical strut; each said vertical strut being provided with a vertical panel guide channel encompassing the edge guide of said panel to slide vertically interlocked with it and holding said panels vertically parallel and spaced apart against sidewalls of excavation to partially engage and cooperatively interlock said guide of said panel so that said panel slides vertically relative to said vertical strut.~~

2. (currently amended) A shoring device as set forth in the claim [1] 6, wherein each said panel has lengthwise ~~at the upper part, on the top~~ a second said cutting edge of identical shape, size and structure to the one arranged oppositely to said cutting edge provided at the bottom of said panel by mean that said cutting edges are arranged on opposite sides of said panel pointing outward such that both cutting edges are orientated reverse relative to each other and relative to sidewall of excavation.

3. (original) A shoring device as set forth in the claim 1, wherein said vertical struts of said strutting assembly are provided on either end with at least one roller.

4. (currently amended) A shoring device for trenches and ditches comprising:
- [a] panel means, for supporting walls of the excavations, having laterally on either end a guide means built onto and along the area denoting the thickness of said panel;
  - ~~vertical struts means, for sliding vertically along said shoring panels using a horizontally interlocking connection that receive the guide of the panel;~~
  - strutting assembly means, for supporting said panels means using vertical struts provided with panel guide means formed therein to engage partially and cooperate with said guide of said panel means, for sliding interlockingly relative to said panel, each said vertical strut means, being fastened rigidly on either end of at least one horizontal strut means, unable to pivot nor displace vertically along said vertical strut.
  - ~~horizontal strut means, for supporting the vertical strut using fasteners to assemble said vertical struts.~~
5. (currently amended) A shoring device for trenches and ditches comprising:
- [a] panel means, for supporting walls of the excavation having lengthwise two ~~identical~~ cutting edges built respectively on the top and at the bottom of said panel, each said cutting edge having a whose cross section outlining outlines a right triangle, said cutting edges being arranged oppositely to each other by mean that said cutting edges are positioned on opposite sides of said panel pointing outward ~~that are fixed respectively on the top and at the bottom of said panel and are orientated reverse relative to each other and relative to sidewalls of excavation;~~
  - horizontal strut means, for supporting said panel using fastener to connect onto [to] said panel.
6. (new) A shoring device as set forth in the claim 1, wherein said panel having lengthwise at the bottom a cutting edge, said cutting edge having a cross section shaping a right triangle.
7. (new) A shoring device as set forth in claim 1, wherein said vertical struts are rigidly and oppositely fastened onto each other via bolts or pins without intermediation of said horizontal strut.